

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of)
Kurt PLÖTZ) Group Art Unit: Unassigned
Divisional of Application No.: 09/619,529) Examiner: Unassigned
Filed: July 16, 2003) Confirmation No.: Unassigned
For: WALL AND FLOOR COVERINGS)
)

**FIRST
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, applicant hereby submits the following information in conformance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98.

Some of the listed documents were previously made of record or cited by the Examiner in prior Application Serial No. 09/619,529, filed July 19, 2000, upon which applicant relies for the benefits provided in 35 U.S.C. § 120. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98, a copy of each of the listed documents is not enclosed.

The documents are being submitted within three (3) months of the filing or entry of the national stage of this application or before the first Office Action on the merits, whichever is later. Since the documents are being filed within the time period set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b) no fee or statement is required.

The Examiner's attention is directed to copending Application No. 09/619,535, naming Werner GROH et al as inventor(s) and filed on July 19, 2000; copending Application No. 09/619,585, naming Werner GROH as inventor and filed on July 19, 2000; copending Application No. 09/619,531, naming Werner GROH et al as inventor and filed on July 19, 2000; and copending Application No. 09/619,528, naming Kurt PLOTZ as inventor and filed on July 19, 2000 (now U.S. Patent No. 6,412,154, issued July 2, 2002) and the documents cited therein. Copies of the copending applications and the '154 Patent were filed on October 8, 2002, in parent Application No. 09/619,529.

Information Disclosure Statement
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Attorney's Docket No. 032745-037
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The following search reports were also submitted on November 29, 2000, in parent Application No. 09/619,529, filed July 19, 2000:

- (1) PCT/IB 00/01783, mailed March 29, 2001;
- (2) PCT/IB 00/01488, mailed February 13, 2001;
- (3) PCT/IB 00 01818, mailed March 29, 2001; and
- (4) PCT/IB 00/01282, mailed February 8, 2001.

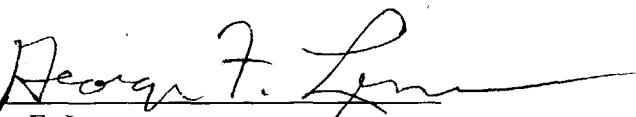
 In accordance with M.P.E.P. § 609(c)(2) (August 2001, page 600-131), the Office is requested to return a copy of this Information Disclosure Statement with the Examiner's initials adjacent to this paragraph indicating that the copending applications have been considered. By citation of the copending applications, confidentiality is not waived and the Office is requested to maintain the confidentiality of the copending applications under 35 U.S.C. § 122.

To assist the Examiner, the documents are listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that an Examiner-initialed copy of this form be returned to the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

Date: July 16, 2003

By: 
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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO		ATTORNEY'S DKT No. 032745-037	APPLICATION NO. Div. of 09/619,529
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT		APPLICANT Kurt PLÖTZ	
		FILING DATE July 16, 2003	GROUP Unassigned

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS				
Examiner Initials	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication (MM-DD-YYYY)
	Number	Kind Code (if known)		
	4,175,154		Faust et al	11-1979
	4,230,762		Hajime IWASAKI et al	10-28-80
	4,511,619		Kuhnel et al	04-1985
	4,755,423		Wolfgang GREISER et al	07-05-88
	5,017,426		Wolfgang GREISER et al	05-21-91
	5,047,275		Chomarat et al	09-1991
	5,171,629		Heidel et al	12-1992
	5,458,960		Jorma NIEMINEN et al	10-17-95
	6,412,154		Plotz	07-2002

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials	Foreign Patent Document		Country	Date of Publication (MM-DD-YYYY)	Translation	
	Number	Kind Code (if known)			Yes	No
	WO 90/15181		WIPO	12-13-90	X	
	11-268159		Japan	01-10-99		
	43 39 709	A1	Germany	05-24-95		
	36 05 830	A1	Germany	08-27-87	X	
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	0 667 427	A1	Europe	08-16-95		
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	0 226 471	A2	Europe	06-24087	X	
	0 900 869	A2	Europe	03-10-99		
	0 285 533	B1	Europe	10-05-88		
	53-58074	A	Japan	05-1978		X
	51-103570	A	Japan	09-1976		X

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS				
Examiner Initials	Include name of author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.			
Examiner Signature			Date Considered	

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION PTO-1449			ATTORNEY'S DKT NO. 032745-037	APPLICATION NO. Div. of 09/619,529		
			APPLICANT Kurt PLÖTZ			
			FILING DATE July 16, 2003	GROUP Unassigned		
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
EXAMINER'S INITIALS	PATENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
EXAMINER'S INITIALS	PATENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation
						Yes
	3901 152 A1	07-19-90	Germany			X *
	26 22 206	12-01-77	Germany			X *
	G 92 07 367.0	10-22-92	Germany			X
	0 187 824 B1	07-23-86	European Patent Office			X *
	3435 643 A1	04-10-86	Germany			X *
	0 176 847 A2	04-09-86	European Patent Office			
	0 315 507 A2	05-10-89	European Patent Office			
	WO 97/19219	05-29-97	WIPO			
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	0 646 454 A1	04-05-95	European Patent Office			
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	0 132 325 B1	01-30-85	European Patent Office			X *
	WO 98/17455	04-30-98	WIPO			
	0 899 372 A2	03-03-99	European Patent Office			
	0 379 100 B1	07-25-90	European Patent Office			X *
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)						
EXAMINER			DATE CONSIDERED			

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

*English-language Abstract.